

Children in the Public Foster Care System Waiting to be Adopted
Fiscal Year 1999-2003

	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Alabama	1,013	1,162	1,288	1,525	1,608
Alaska	639	688	701	621	639
Arizona	3,014	2,340	2,507	1,650	1,676
Arkansas	847	817	808	982	986
California	9,448	12,004	7,682	6,335	5,473
Colorado	1,665	1,776	1,445	1,886	1,492
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	1,036	1,310
Delaware	271	334	319	210	144
Dist of Col	NA	1,086	1,148	1,178	1,130
Florida	4,610	5,395	7,696	8,115	8,174
Georgia	2,696	2,860	4,185	3,200	2,498
Hawaii	616	693	731	709	772
Idaho	83	185	229	258	255
Illinois	14,676	10,727	8,963	6,225	3,811
Indiana	2,631	1,959	2,392	2,364	2,417
Iowa	1,039	1,016	1,119	1,277	1,137
Kansas	1,756	1,908	2,056	2,076	1,988
Kentucky	1,739	2,013	1,928	1,932	2,039
Louisiana	1,477	1,541	1,439	1,471	1,315
Maine	1,095	1,096	1,003	979	795
Maryland	2,803	3,073	3,299	2,998	2,584
Massachusetts	3,270	3,145	2,910	3,109	3,059
Michigan	8,494	7,742	7,815	6,862	7,129
Minnesota	2,047	1,774	1,661	1,609	1,570
Mississippi	581	520	510	816	832
Missouri	3,137	3,130	3,015	2,870	3,385
Montana	774	850	748	687	655
Nebraska	432	483	348	1,034	913
Nevada	NA	NA	593	534	924
New Hampshire	153	207	198	193	176
New Jersey	4,251	4,852	5,174	5,073	5,236
New Mexico	876	822	668	514	580
New York	16,138	15,833	14,635	13,926	12,742
North Carolina	3,595	3,709	3,329	3,130	3,097
North Dakota	311	322	322	321	319
Ohio	3,473	4,438	5,914	5,731	5,201
Oklahoma	1,832	1,766	2,390	2,435	2,570
Oregon	3,000	3,150	2,680	2,511	2,606
Pennsylvania	4,881	5,203	5,240	4,231	4,159

Rhode Island	333	388	403	387	306
South Carolina	2,199	2,201	2,157	1,961	1,499
South Dakota	276	297	404	439	454
Tennessee	1,660	2,032	2,287	2,346	1,974
Texas	6,592	7,190	7,887	8,441	8,685
Utah	325	350	333	450	447
Vermont	360	397	303	427	374
Virginia	2,178	2,132	1,946	1,489	1,572
Washington	3,285	2,512	2,258	2,648	2,384
West Virginia	775	762	729	1,000	1,036
Wisconsin	1,012	1,038	1,640	1,676	1,715
Wyoming	100	92	104	102	91
Puerto Rico	522	NA	384	1,454	1,416
TOTAL	128,980	130,010	129,923	125,433	119,349

NOTE: There is no federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. For analytical purposes, the definition used in the table above includes children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older, whose parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. The number of children waiting to be adopted reported by individual States will likely differ somewhat from those in this table because State definitions vary according to State policies and practices.

Furthermore, some numbers in this table may be lower than the numbers reported in the prior version of this table. Children were included in the previous table who only met the criteria of having had their parental rights terminated could have had them terminated at any time. Only those children with terminations prior to the end of the fiscal year of interest are included in the current table. This provides a more accurate picture of the size and nature of the "waiting" population at the end of each fiscal year.

In contrast to the previous version of this table, FY 1998 data are not included because of the extensive amount of missing data for that year. However, as in the previous version of the table, jurisdictions with insufficient data ("NA") are not included in the totals. Therefore, the totals in this table may differ from those reported elsewhere which include estimates for missing data.